

VIRGINIA WILDLIFE

JULY/AUGUST 2021

FOUR DOLLARS

ANNUAL
PHOTOGRAPHY
SHOWCASE



VIRGINIA WILDLIFE

JULY/AUGUST 2021

VOL. 82, NO. 4

FEATURES

5 Virginia Fauna

Native birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and insects.

27 Textures and Patterns

Textures and patterns found in nature.

37 Trail Cameras

Images that reveal the secret lives of our native wildlife.

41 What's Your Wild?

Photographers share images that reveal how they feel in touch with nature and the outdoors.

Front Cover

Wally Pendleton of North Chesterfield wins the cover with his gorgeous Virginia Fauna entry of a luna moth resting on caladium. Nikon D7100 DSLR camera, Nikon AF-S DX Nikkor 18-105mm f/3.5-5.6 ED VR lens, ISO 320, 1/100, f/8. **Congratulations Wally!**

Back Cover

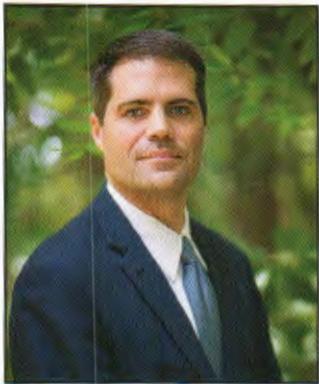
Terry Moore of Newport News sent this Virginia Fauna entry of two red fox kits snuggling at dawn on the sand dune in front of their den that won our back cover. Canon EOS 5D Mark III DSLR camera, Canon EF 300mm f/2.8L IS lens, Canon EF 1.4x III extender, ISO 320, 1/3200, f/4. **Way to go Terry!**

Left

Tibor Molnar of Alexandria's What's Your Wild entry, a jumping spider perching on a red crayon, caught our eye. Nikon D810 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor AF-S VR 105mm f/2.8 micro lens, ISO 125, 1/200, f/13.

What's Your Wild? "Wild means finding nature everywhere, and to me it's the tiny world many just don't usually see. There is just as much color and drama happening in our own back yards. This can mean putting out feeders to attract birds or planting local flowers to provide a haven for nature. Once you look for the small things it opens up your eyes to just how many extraordinary living things there are around us that we may have never noticed." —Tibor Molnar

SPECIAL NOTE: Photographers are identified by the name of photographer, their city of residence/caption information, camera and lens used to capture the image, ISO, shutter speed, and aperture exposure setting.



RYAN J. BROWN
Executive Director

The Photography Showcase Issue of *Virginia Wildlife* is an annual favorite of many readers and DWR staff, as each page eloquently captures just what we all love about the outdoors—the animals, the plants, the patterns, and the peace. I’m always amazed at the quality of the images Virginia photographers take as they explore the wild. Whether it’s with a smart phone or a sophisticated DSLR camera, they capture moments that make us smile and educate us. It’s always a monumental task to choose which images will fill these pages, as so many great ones are sent in.

It's fascinating to read what some of the photographers identified as their "wild" in the this year's "What's Your Wild?" category (p. 41). From a trail less traveled to an up-close look at the food chain in action to wildlife interactions, the photographers who submitted in this category all find something different in the outdoors. Their photos show just how many different experiences one can have while out exploring and how many ways there are to appreciate our natural resources.

The overarching theme of all the "What's Your Wild?" submissions, though, is finding a connection to the natural world. The photographers use words like extraordinary, educational, magical, serene, discovery, and awe to describe how the outdoors makes them feel. There's just something peaceful about being surrounded by the sights, sounds, and smells of nature. Happening upon wildlife in its natural environment is truly one of the greatest experiences available to each of us.

The last year has sparked new and renewed interest in the outdoors for many people, which is great news. We hope the trend continues, because the outdoors are always better together. As growing numbers of people discover their own "wild," hopefully also will efforts to protect the wild. The more you learn about wildlife and wild places, and the more you value them, the more you can do to help preserve those resources.

I hope you enjoy flipping through these pages and seeing what joy the wild brings to Virginia, and I also hope you get out into the outdoors yourself and bring others. Go find your wild!

Everyone finds something different in the outdoors. Whether you’re an avid birder in a quest to check a species off your list, a hiker looking to leave the busy world behind, an angler seeking that perfect spot, or a hunter scouting for your latest pursuit, you turn to the fields and the woods for inspiration. We at the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) understand that, because we all share the same instinct to get out in the wild.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Conserve and manage wildlife populations and habitat for the benefit of present and future generations. Connect people to Virginia's outdoors through boating, education, fishing, hunting, trapping, wildlife viewing and other wildlife-related activities. Protect people and property by promoting safe outdoor experiences and managing human-wildlife conflicts.

Virginia Fauna — Native birds, mammals, (game and nongame), insects, amphibians, and reptiles.



Barbara Saffir, Fairfax / An indigo bunting flits between thistle flowers at Sky Meadows State Park, Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, Canon EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS II lens, ISO 1000, 1/1600, f/5.6

“

*May my heart always be open to little birds
who are the secrets of living.* –E.E. Cummings

The Annual Photography Showcase issue is a highlight every year for both the readers and *Virginia Wildlife* staff! This year, we had 286 photographers submit a grand total of 1,259 photo entries. We had 585 in Virginia Fauna, 268 in Textures and Patterns, 44 in Trail Cameras, and 362 in What's Your Wild?

I was amazed at the sheer number of extraordinary photographs. It was so hard to choose the images to be included—this issue could have been 100 pages! This year's magazine features 96 talented photographers. We are enormously appreciative of their generosity in sharing their pictures with us and with you. So now, turn the pages and enjoy!

– Molly Kirk, Editor



George Garrett, Ashland / Barred owls, Sony Alpha a7II mirrorless camera, Canon FD500mm f/4.5 lens, ISO 20,000, 1/500, f/4.5



Clifton Seney, Virginia Beach / Great egret gulping a huge bullfrog, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 500, 1/5000, f/5.6



Betty Sue Cohen, Virginia Beach / Green heron, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 300mm f/4 lens, ISO 400, 1/800, f/8



David Boyd, Fredericksburg / Great blue heron with a double catch of hickory shad, Canon EOS-1DX Mark III DSLR camera, Sigma 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 800, 1/2000, f/6.3



Donna Stokes, Waynesboro / Great blue heron, Canon EOS 70D DSLR camera, Canon EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS II lens, ISO 500, 1/800, f/13



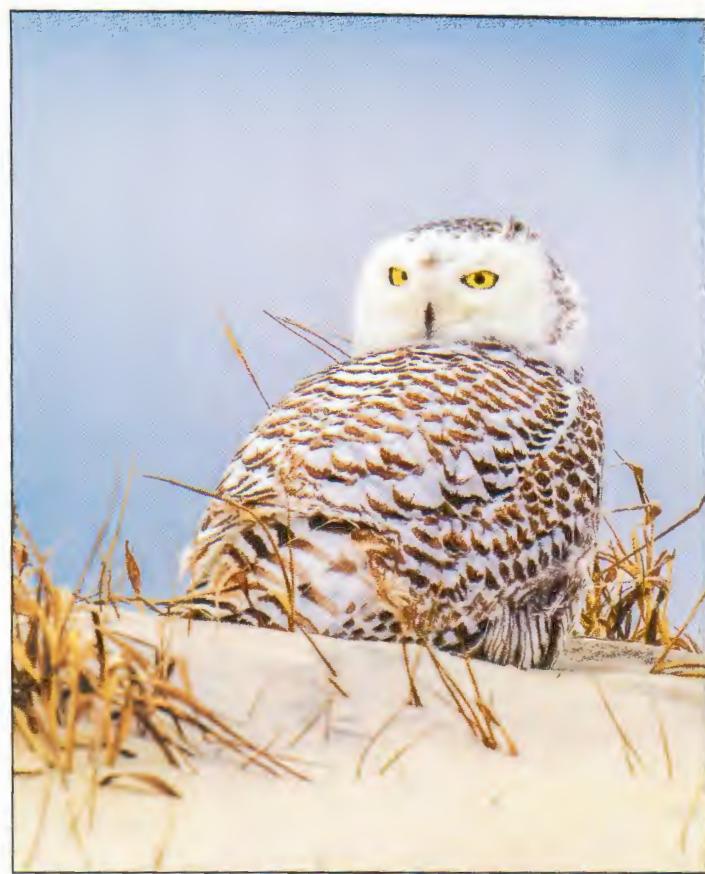
Jane Gamble, Alexandria / Green heron stalking prey at Huntley Meadows Park, Nikon D7500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1800, 1/320, f/8



Clifton Seney, Virginia Beach / Yellow-crowned night-heron tries to grab a blue crab, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 400, 1/3200, f/5.6



Howard Wu, Herndon / A bald eagle calls out at Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, Canon EF300mm f/4L IS lens, 1.4x extender, ISO 160, 1/1250, f/4



Jane Scott Norris, Virginia Beach / A snowy owl visits the dunes of Chincoteague National Park, Sony Alpha a7R IV mirrorless camera, Sony 400mm f/2.8 lens, Sony FE 2x teleconverter, ISO 1600, 1/800, f/8



David Boyd, Fredericksburg / An osprey with a shad caught on the Rappahannock River, Canon EOS-1DX Mark III DSLR camera, Sigma 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 1250, 1/12500, f/8



Alex Shiperd, Luray / American kestrel, Canon EOS R mirrorless camera, Canon EF400mm f/5.6L lens, CanonEF 1.4x III extender, ISO 800, 1/2000, f/8



Carol Annis, Toano / Field sparrow with grass seeds, Sony Alpha 9 mirrorless camera, Sony FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 lens, ISO 800, 1/800, f/8



Ann Fulcher, Midlothian / Red-bellied woodpecker, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Sigma 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 400, 1/2500, f/6.3



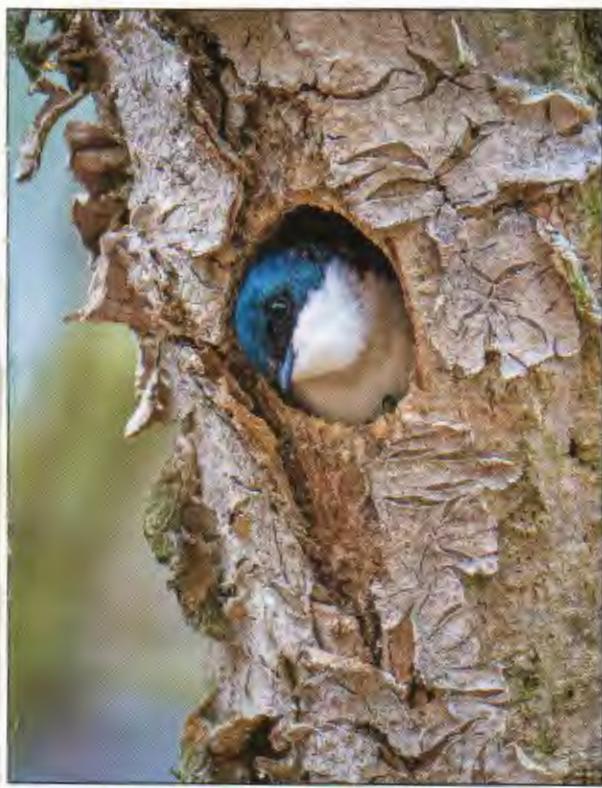
Ann Fulcher, Midlothian / An American goldfinch perches on a coneflower, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Sigma 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 640, 1/500, f/6.3



Matthew Huntley, Fredericksburg / An American goldfinch enjoying seeds, Nikon D 500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-600mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1000, 1/160, f/5.6



Joseph Brown, Christiansburg / A cedar waxwing drops from a branch after feeding on berries, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 3600, 1/8000, f/7.1



Edward Episcopo, Fredericksburg / A tree swallow peers from its nest hole, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Tamron 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 1000, 1/1600, f/6.3



Carol Annis, Toano / An American robin feeds on berries, Sony Alpha 9 mirrorless camera, Sony FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 lens, ISO 640, 1/1000, f/8



Joshua Cary, Virginia Beach / A cedar waxwing enjoys mulberries, Sony Alpha 6300 mirrorless camera, Sony FE200-600mm f/5.6-6.3 lens, ISO 2500, 1/800, f/6.3



Bill Tucker, Moneta / An Eastern kingbird leaves its nest and three hungry chicks, Nikon D7200 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 560, 1/1000, f/5.6

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*Birds are magical. Their flight alone can
arouse a clever thought.* —Michael Bassey Johnson, *Song of a Nature Lover*



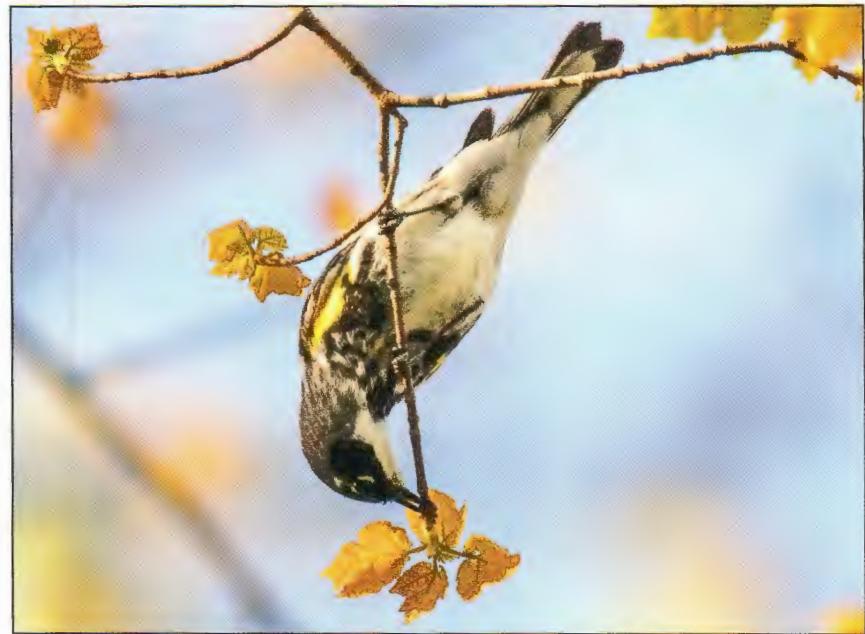
Terry Moore, Newport News / Eastern wood peewee brings food to a fledgling, Canon EOS 5D Mark III DSLR camera, Canon EF400mm f/5.6L lens, ISO 800, 1/2000, f/5.6



Daniel Fedorko, Falls Church / Eastern bluebird, Nikon D7500 DSLR camera, Sigma 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 360, 1/160, f/8



Judy Jones, Williamsburg / Yellow-billed cuckoo,
Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, Canon
EF400mm f/5.6L lens, ISO 1250, 1/2000, f/5.6



Alex Shiperd, Luray / A yellow-rumped warbler snacks on a bug, Canon EOS 7D Mark II
DSLR camera, Canon EF400mm f/5.6L, ISO 400, 1/1000, f/5.6



Jack Nevitt, Ashburn / Barn swallow fledglings keep their parents busy, Sony Cyber-shot RX10 IV digital camera, Zeiss 24-600mm f/2.4-4 lens,
ISO 1000, 1/1250, f/5.6



Chris Kirby, Glen Allen / A male Eastern bluebird perches during a snow storm, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6ED VR lens, ISO 3200, 1/400, f/8



Mark Wolsky, Stanley / A male ruby-throated hummingbird caught in rearward flight, Nikon D850 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 105mm f/2.8 micro lens, ISO 1250, 1/2500, f/9



Donnie Goodrich, Williamsburg / A female mallard guards her little ones, Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, Canon EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L II lens, ISO 640, 1/500, f/7.1



Joseph Brown, Christiansburg / A juvenile ruby-throated hummingbird enjoys a drink, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 5000, 1/1600, f/7.1

“

*For man, as for flower
and beast and bird,
the supreme triumph is
to be most vividly, most perfectly
alive.* —D.H. Lawrence



Jane Scott Norris, Virginia Beach / A mink carries a blue crab, Sony Alpha a7R IV mirrorless camera, Sony 400mm f/2.8 lens, ISO 4000, 1/1000, f/6.3



Dan Whiting, Portsmouth / Coyote found at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Nikon D7100 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 400, 1/1600, f/6.3



Betty Sue Cohen, Virginia Beach / Early morning coyote at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 300mm f/4 lens, ISO 640, 1/640, f/7.1



Dan Whiting, Portsmouth / A pair of river otters discovered in the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, Nikon D7100 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1600, 1/400, f/5.6



Jan Master, Oak Hill / A muskrat swimming at Huntley Meadows Park, Nikon D4 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 250, 1/640, f/8



Vicki Wishon, Yorktown / Delmarva fox squirrel, Sony Alpha a7R III mirrorless camera, Sony FE100-400mm f/4.5-5.6 lens, 1.4X teleconverter, ISO 10,000, 1/500, f/8



Barbara Houston, Quinton / Black bear sow and young cubs, Canon EOS-1D X Mark II DSLR camera, Canon EF400mm f/5.6L lens, ISO 320, 1/640, f/5.6



Jack Nevitt, Ashburn / An otter brings its catch to shore to eat, Sony Alpha a7R IV mirrorless camera, Sony FE100-400mm f/4.5-5.6 lens, ISO 1250, 1/1600, f/6.3



Julie Wallace, Williamsburg / Friendly Eastern gray squirrels, Nikon CoolPix P1000 digital camera, ISO 720, 1/800, f/5.6



Edward Episcopo, Fredericksburg / White-tailed buck in velvet at Big Meadows in Shenandoah National Park, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Tamron 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 2000, 1/400, f/6.3



Wyatt Young, Virginia Beach / Juvenile opossum, Panasonic Lumix G7 mirrorless camera, Lumix G Vario 100-300mm f/4-5.6 II lens, ISO 3200, 1/320, f/4.3



Mary Prochnow, Reston / Piebald white-tailed fawn, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 70-200mm f/4 lens, ISO 2500, 1/100, f/4



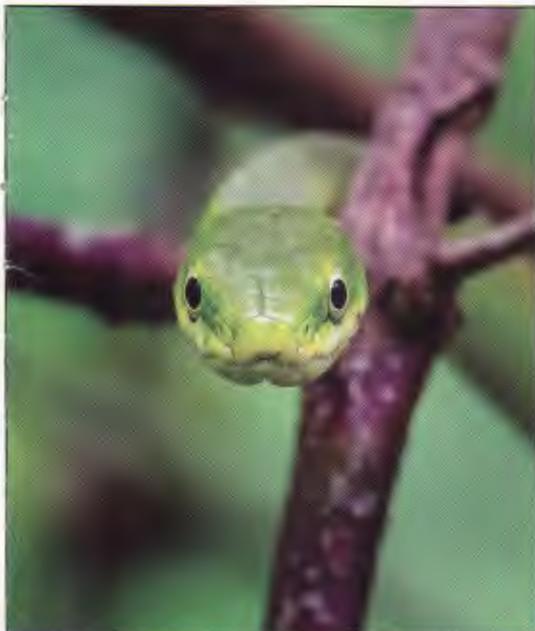
Michael Spillars, Warrenton / White-tailed buck in velvet at Bull Run Battlefield, Canon 5D Mark II DSLR camera, Tamron 150-600mm f/5 lens, ISO 3200, 1/60, f/5.6



Adit Nehra, Herndon / A white-tailed doe glows in evening light, Canon EOS Rebel T6 DSLR camera, Canon EF70-300mm f/4-5.6 IS II lens, ISO 200, 1/500, f/5.6



Brendan Burke, Amelia Court House / Northern watersnake eating a fish underwater, Apple iPhone 8, ISO 20, 1/140, f/1.8



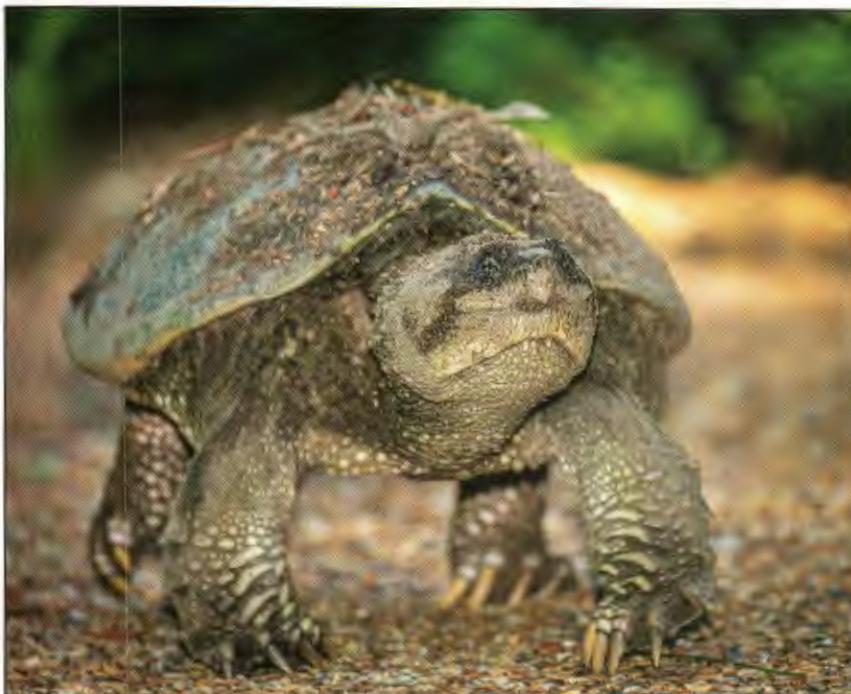
Jane Gamble, Alexandria / Rough green snake at Huntley Meadows Park, Nikon D7500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 1800, 1/320, f/8



William Hark, Richmond / Woodland box turtle eating a mushroom, Samsung Galaxy phone, ISO 500, 1/50, f/2.4



Barbara Houston, Quinton / Black racer, Canon EOS-1D X Mark II DSLR camera, Canon EF100mm f/2.8L IS macro lens, ISO 5000, 1/400, f/6.3



Donnie Goodrich, Williamsburg / A common snapping turtle tiptoes across the road, Canon EOS 5D Mark IV DSLR camera, Canon EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS II lens, ISO 400, 1/200, f/6.3



Gary Powell, Charlottesville / A tiny red eft, the terrestrial form of the Eastern spotted newt, Nikon D7000 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 85mm f/3.5 lens, ISO 400, 1/100, f/10



Lori Cash, Norfolk / Green frog at Norfolk Botanical Garden
Canon EOS M50 mirrorless camera, Canon EF-M55-200mm f/4.5-6.3 lens, ISO 400, 1/500, f/6.3



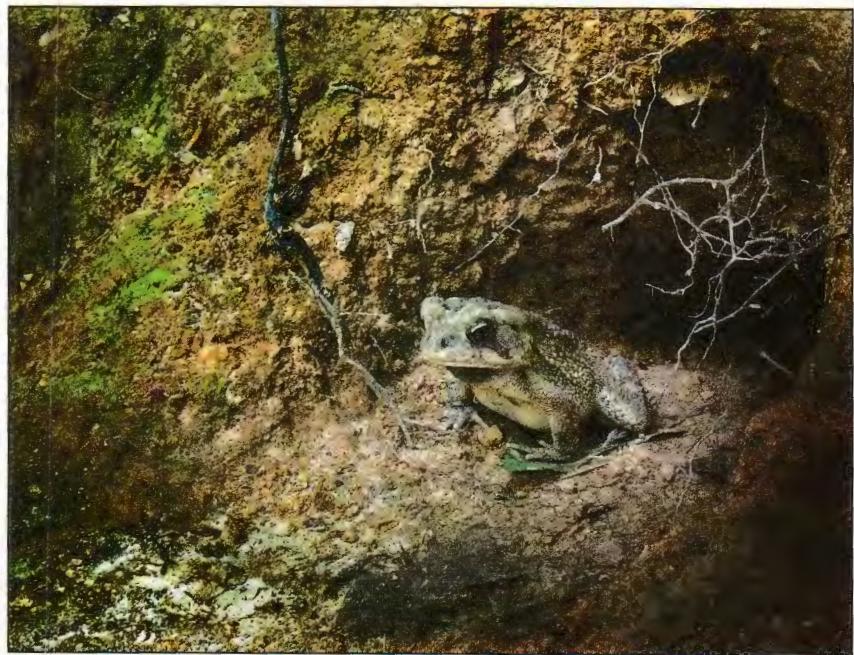
Pam Conley, Bristol / Common snapping turtle covered in duckweed, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Tamron SP 150-600mm f/5-6.3 G2 lens, ISO 900, 1/1250, f/8



Mills Kelly, Manassas / Green treefrogs, Canon EOS 60D DSLR camera, Canon EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS lens, ISO 400, 1/250, f/7.1



Rachel Boag, Williamsburg / Eastern fence lizard,
Canon Powershot SX60 HS digital camera,
ISO 250, 1/320, f/6.5



Mark Best, Chesterfield / Eastern American toad at its burrow entrance, Nikon CoolPix
P510 digital camera, ISO 400, 1/40, f/5.7



Bill Niven, Chesapeake / Eastern American toad calling,
Canon Powershot SX60 HS digital camera, ISO 500, 1/160, f/7.1



Camilla Witt, Clintwood / Gray treefrog, Apple iPhone 7, ISO 20, 1/610,
f/1.8



Anne Bryant, Sedley / Ebony jewelwing, Canon EOS 70D DSLR camera, Canon EF70-300mm f/4-5.6 IS II lens, ISO 3200, 1/400, f/5.6

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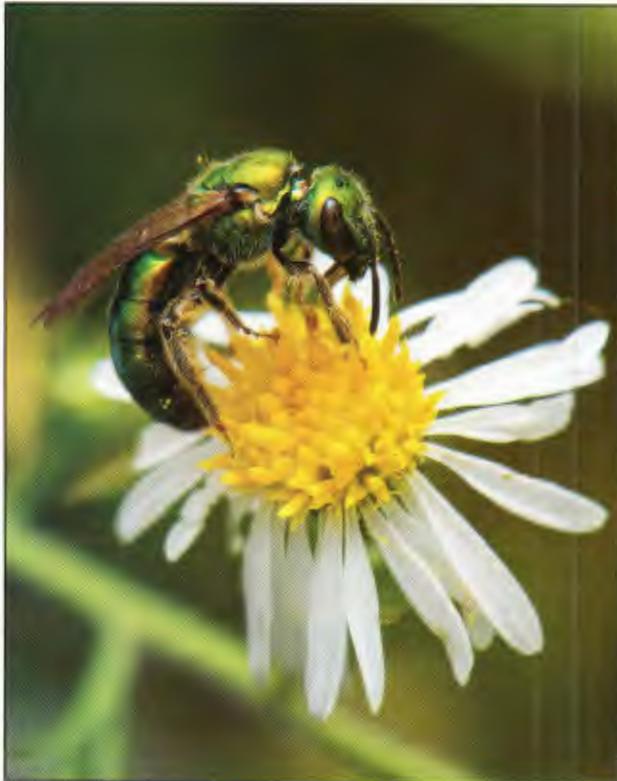
*In photography,
the smallest thing can be
a great subject.* —Henri Cartier-Bresson



Chris Kirby, Glen Allen / A bumble bee in Joseph Byrd Park, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6ED VR lens, ISO 500, 1/1000, f/8



Scott Neylon, Woodbridge / An adorable wolf spider poses for the photographer, Olympus OM-D E-M5 Mark II mirrorless camera, Olympus M. Zuiko digital ED 60mm, f/2.8 macro lens, ISO 100, 1/160, f/7.1



Tibor Molnar, Alexandria / A sweat bee collects pollen, Nikon D810 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor AF-S VR 105mm f/2.8 micro lens, ISO 400, 1/200, f/22



Judy Jones, Williamsburg / Cecropia silk moth caterpillar, Canon EOS 5D Mark III DSLR camera, Canon EF 100mm f/2.8 macro lens, ISO 2000, 1/500, f/7.1



Barbara Saffir, Fairfax / A green treefrog shares its perch with a handsome meadow katydid and a honey bee, Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, Canon EF100mm f/2.8 macro lens, ISO 100, 1/200, f/11



Roderick Perkins, Williamsburg / A snail gliding across a rock, Fujifilm X-T100 digital camera, Venus Laowa 65mm f/2.8 2X Ultra APO macro lens, ISO 800, 1/180, f/unrecorded



Laura McGranaghan, Berryville / A robber fly with prey, Nikon D850 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 80-400mm F/4.5-5.6 lens, ISO 800, 1/250, f/8

“

I think us here to wonder, myself.

To wonder. To ask.

*And that in wondering bout the big things
and asking bout the big things,
you learn about the little ones,
almost by accident...*

The more I wonder,

the more I love. —Alice Walker



Scott Neylon, Woodbridge / A weevil rests on a leaf, Olympus OM-D E-M5 Mark II mirrorless camera, Olympus M. Zuiko digital ED 60mm, f/2.8 macro lens, ISO 100, 1/160, f/8



Scott Neylon, Woodbridge / Cuckoo wasp smells a leaf, Olympus OM-D E-M5 Mark II Mirrorless DSLR camera, Olympus M. Zuiko digital ED 60mm, f/2.8 macro lens, ISO 100, 1/160, f/7.1



Michele Lam, Lexington / A two-lined spittlebug hangs out, Canon EOS 80D DSLR camera, Canon EF-S60mm f/2.8 macro lens, ISO 100, 1/100, f/5



Vicky Mitchell, Raphine / Orb weaver spider on a wet web, Nikon D850 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 105mm f/2.8 micro lens, ISO 640, 1/20, f/16



Nancy Anderson, Vinton / Hummingbird clearwing moth, Olympus OM-D E-M1 mirrorless camera, Olympus M. Zuiko ED12-200mm f/3.5-6.3 lens, ISO 1200, shutter and f-stop information not available



Kathi Hunter, Spring Grove / A cicada emerges from its shell, Nikon D850 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 200-500mm f/5.6 lens, ISO 800, 1/320, f/8



Jackie Mingia, North Dinwiddie / Monarch butterflies rest in Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge before migrating across the Chesapeake Bay, Nikon Coolpix P1000 digital camera, Nikon Nikkor 24-3000mm f/2.8-8 lens, ISO 400, 1/160, f/5



Judy Gallagher, Woodbridge / Olive hairstreak butterfly, Canon EOS 5D Mark IV DSLR camera, Canon EF100mm f/2.8L IS macro lens, ISO 200, 1/200, f/18

Textures and Patterns — Abstract designs, textures, and patterns found in nature.



David Malmquist, Williamsburg / A dewy spiderweb hangs in front of dark branches and fall-colored foliage, creating an amazing texture and pattern, Sony DSC-RX10M4 mirrorless camera, Sony 24-600mm f/2.4-4 lens, ISO 100, 1/125, f/4

“

I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way—things I had no words for. —Georgia O'Keeffe



Barbara Houston, Quinton / Ice crystals on a wooden pier sparkle in the morning light, Canon EOS 9D DSLR camera, Canon EF24-105mm f/4L lens, ISO 500, 1/320, f/8



Laura Koubsky, Virginia Beach / A Chesapeake Bay summer sunset, Canon EOS 6D DSLR camera, Canon EF24-105mm f/4L IS lens, ISO 1600, 1/320, f/5.6



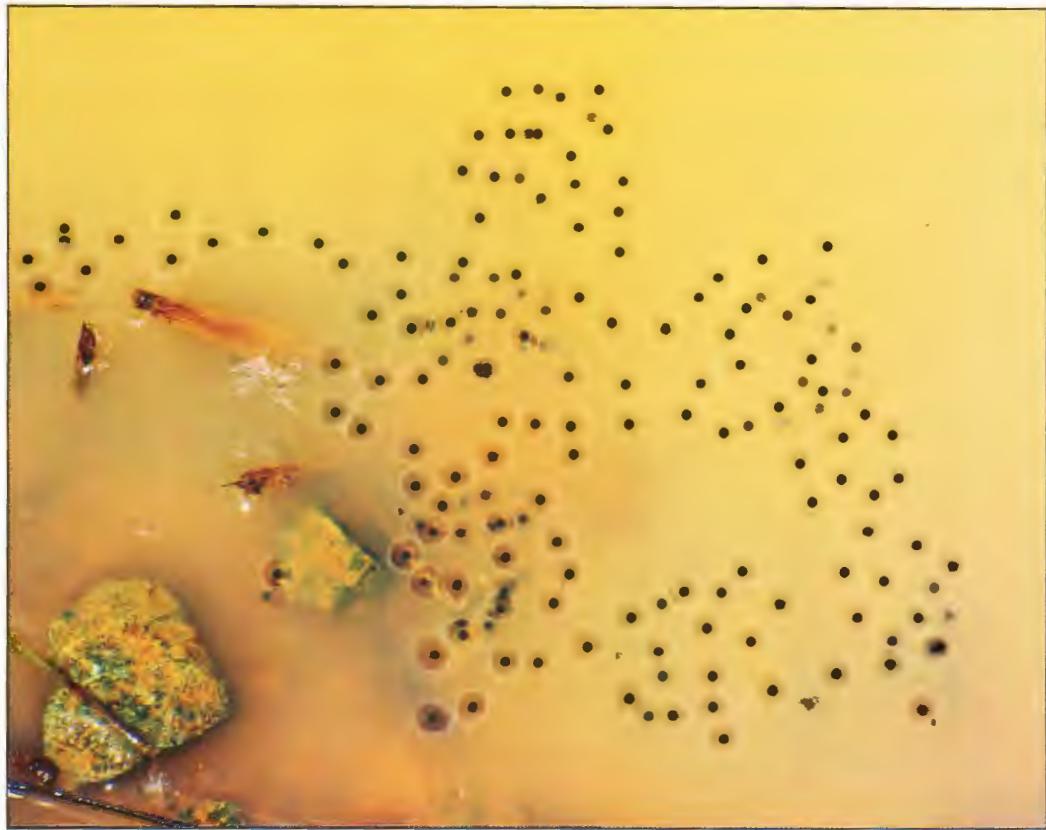
Ann Fulcher, Midlothian / A leaf frozen in ice at Huntley Meadows Park, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Sigma 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 400, 1/640, f/7.1



Alex Shipherd, Luray / Morning fog rises from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Shenandoah National Park, Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, Canon EF400mm f/5.6L lens, ISO 100, 1/800, f/9



Sarah Campbell, Abingdon / Snow clings to trees on the Appalachian Trail, Nikon D300 DSLR camera, Sigma 10-20mm f/4-5.6 lens, ISO 200, 1/250, f/9



Leo Meire, Richmond / Frog eggs discovered at Powhatan Wildlife Management Area, Nikon D750 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 70-300mm f/4.5-6.3 lens, ISO 800, 1/800, f/16



Sarah Campbell, Abingdon / A kaleidoscope of color in Grayson Highlands State Park, Nikon D300 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor D300 DSLR camera, Sigma 10-20mm f/4-5.6 lens, ISO 200, 1/200, f/5



Jean Wibbens, Goode / Pearls of water hang heavy on a spiderweb, Canon EOS 5D Mark III DSLR camera, Canon EF100mm f/2.8L macro lens, ISO 1600, 1/125, f/10



Wayne Wolfersberger, Frederick, MD / Fern and stone, Nikon D750 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 24-120mm f/4 lens, ISO 100, 1/3, f/22



Chris Kirby, Glen Allen / Morning glory ready to bloom, Nikon D5300 DSLR camera, Sigma 17-50mm f/2.8 lens with 10mm extension, ISO 100, 1/50, f/4.5

“

*I search for the realness,
the real feeling of a subject,
all the texture around it...*

*I always want to see the
third dimension of something...*

*I want to come alive
with the object.* —Andrew Wyeth



Bob Schamerhorn, Richmond / A mushroom and moss, Canon EOS 5D MarkIII DSLR camera, Canon EF400 f/5.6L lens, ISO 3200, 1/200, f/5.6



Laura McGranahan, Berryville / A fritillary butterfly feeds on native butterfly weed, Apple iPhone XS, ISO 25, 1/140, f/1.8



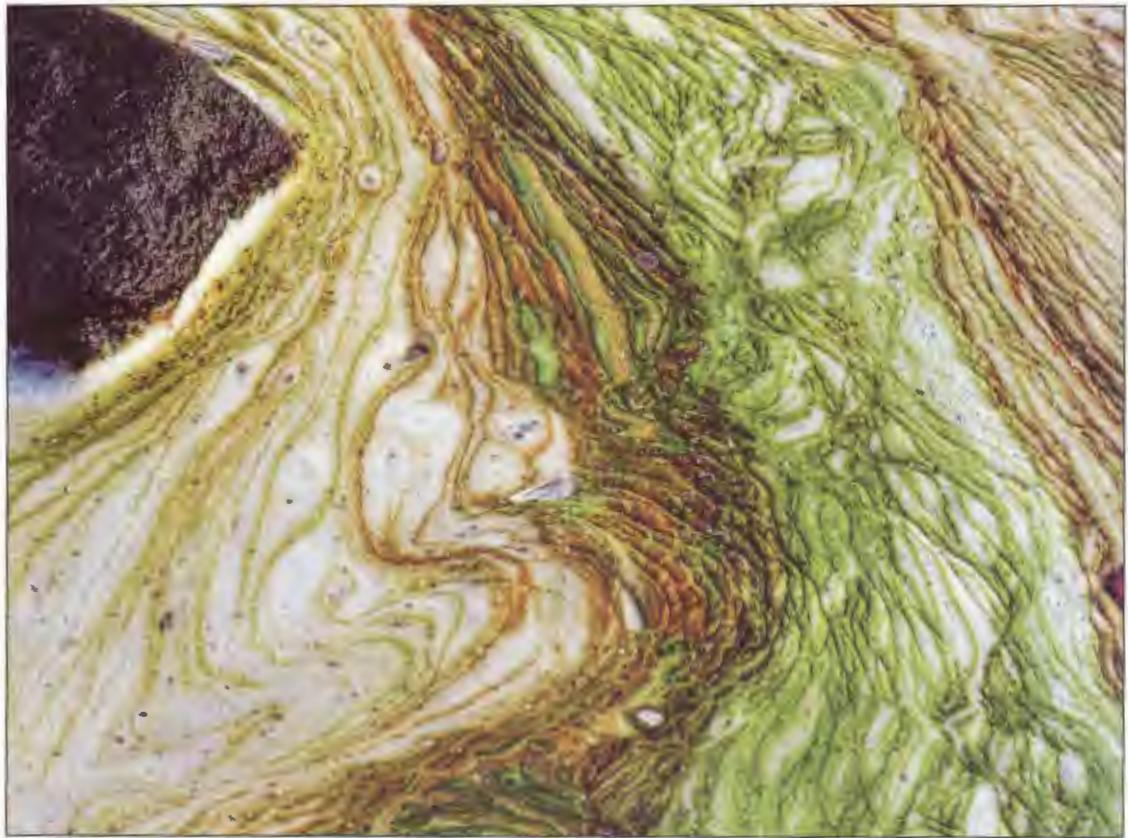
Dan Fettke, Roanoke / Lamb's ear after a rain, Sony Alpha a6300 mirrorless camera, Sigma 100-400mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 400, 1/250, f/10



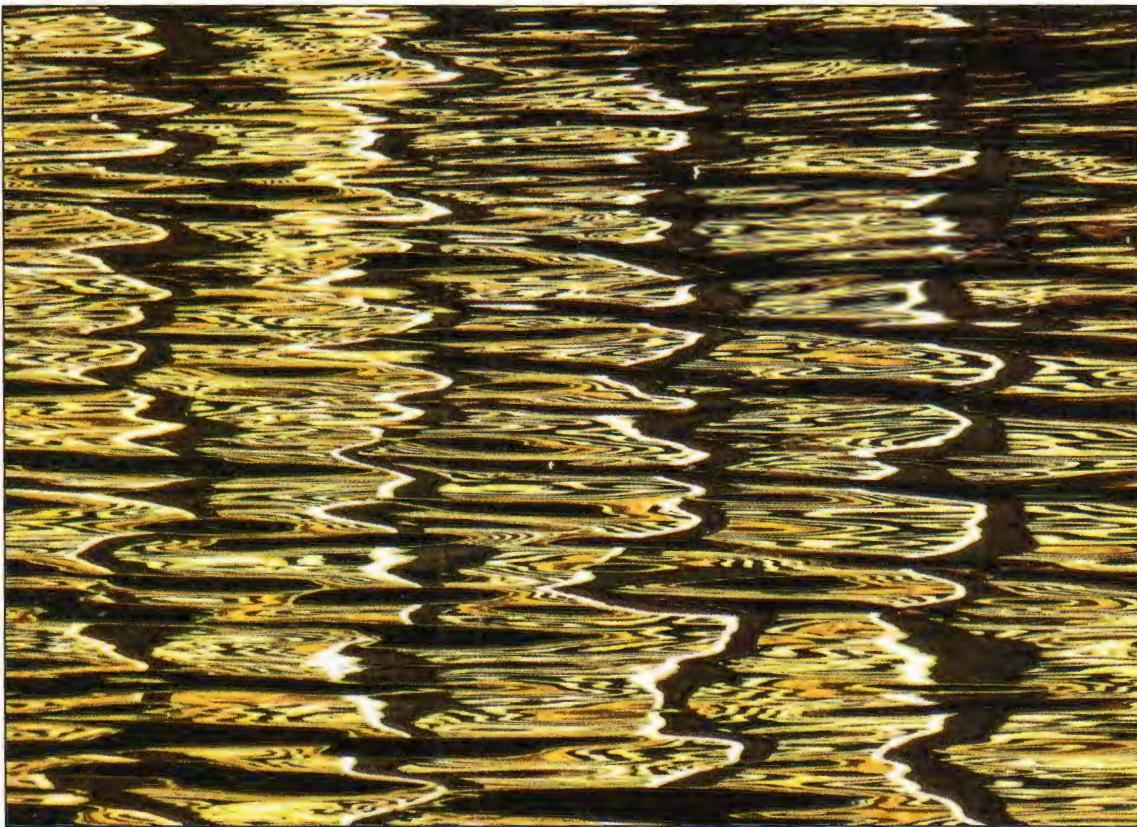
Gary Bond, Glen Allen / The bridge at Echo Lake Park reveals intriguing patterns and textures, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 70-300mm f/4.5-5.6 lens, ISO 180, 1/1000, f/4.5



Mary Prochnow, Reston / Fall leaves in a lake as seen from the bridge over it, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 18-300mm f/3.5-6.3 ED VR lens, ISO 500, 1/125, f/5.6



Bill Niven, Chesapeake / Drainage run-off makes beautiful textures and patterns at the Great Dismal Swamp Wildlife Refuge, Canon Powershot SX60 HS digital camera, ISO 500, 1/500, f/7.1



Bill Niven, Chesapeake / Rippling reflections in a pond, Canon Powershot SX60 HS digital camera, ISO 640, 1/800, f/8



Trisha Bullington, Chesterfield / Rainbow-colored foliage, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 80-400mm f/4.5-5.6 lens, ISO 160, 1/125, f/5.6



Barbara Saffir, Fairfax / Turkey tail fungus, Apple iPhone 7 Plus, ISO 25, 1/40, f/1.8



Howard Wu, Herndon / A light, evening breeze and a cold night created thin surface ice patterns, Canon EOS 90D DSLR camera, Canon EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6L IS II lens, ISO 160, 1/100, f/8



Grace Croonenberghs, Maidens / Water puddle reflections in the rain, Apple iPhone, ISO 32, 1/120, f/1.6



Julie Wallace, Williamsburg / Swamp bubbles capture the photographer, Nikon Coolpix P1000 digital camera, ISO 800, 1/400, f/5

Trail Cameras — Images captured on trail cameras that reveal the secret lives of our native wildlife.



8 47°F) 10 / 20 / 2020 09 : 42 PM OLDEST 1

Allen Easterly, Basye / Amazing proof that Virginia has fishers in our midst, Browning BTC7-FH digital trail camera, ISO 353, 1/30, f/3.6

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*Nature hides her secrets because of
her essential loftiness,
but not by means of ruse. —Albert Einstein*



Adit Nehra, Herdon / Black vultures and a red-shouldered hawk disagree on the ownership of a deer carcass, Wildgame TX14Bx digital camera, ISO 100, 1/1000, f/3.2



09/10/2020 03:07 PM 71°F Phillip Grigsby, Meadows of Dan / A woodchuck, who is not chucking wood, checks out the trail camera, Force SpyPoint digital camera, ISO 100, 1/120, f/3

“

*Photography is a love affair
with Life.* —Burk Uzzle



Norma Wood, Chase City / A bobcat prowls along the edge of a cornfield, Wildgame WR16ix-19122535 digital camera, ISO 100, 1/120, f/3.2



Neal Huffman, Lovettsville / Red-tailed hawks posture defensively over a deer carcass, Tasco digital camera, ISO 100, 1/100, f/3.2



David Boyd, Fredericksburg / A red fox checks the photographer's chicken coop, Cuddeback Trail camera, ISO 3200, 1/250, f/2.7



Norma Wood, Chase City / A black bear sow and four cubs pose for a family portrait, Crenova digital camera, ISO 1600, 1/10, f/1.8



David Blanchard, Louisa / Black bear cubs play, Moultrie A-40 digital camera, ISO 100, 1/115, f/2.8
MOULTRIE 78°F CAMERA 1 11 AUG 2020 09:34 am



MOULTRIE 57°F MOULTRIECAM 22 OCT 2020 03:49 am

Romy Walker, Boyce / White-tailed deer drink from a bird bath, Moultrie M550 digital camera, ISO 400, 1/15, f/2.8



MOULTRIE 67°F 09/02/2020 03:45 AM MYCAMERA

Linda McGee, Rhoadesville / A white-tailed deer helps herself to pears, Moultrie M80 digital camera, ISO 100, 1/11, f/2.8



MOULTRIE 32°F 12/15/2019 03:20AM CAMERA2

Peggy Bowen, Blacksburg / A white-tailed deer and skittish raccoon, Browning BTC-7FHD-PX digital camera, ISO 800, 1/30, f/2.4

What's Your WILD? — Here, we asked you to show us how you find your sense of “wild,” or how you feel in touch with wildlife and the beauty and offerings of the great outdoors.



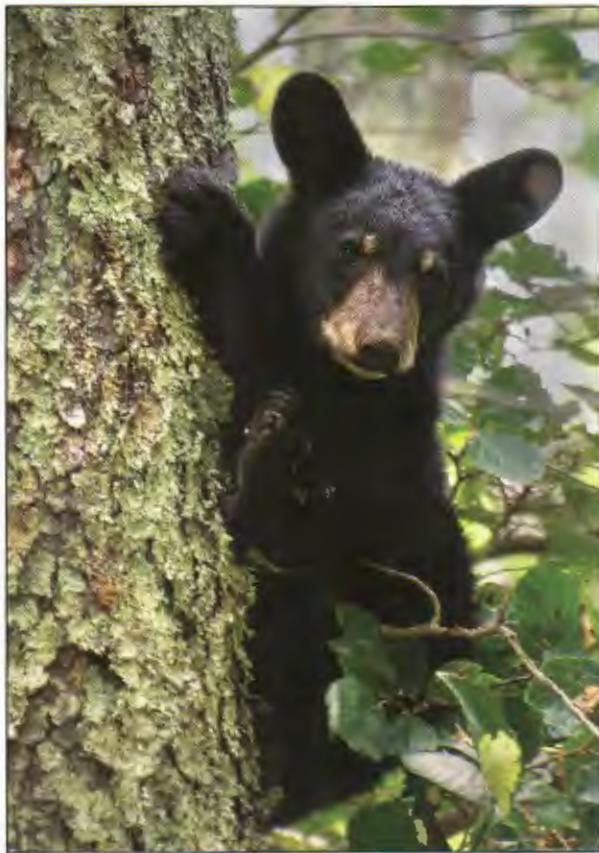
Nat White, Hamilton / A captivating January sunset, Nikon D850 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 24-80mm f/2.8 lens, ISO 800, 1/800, f/5

“Wild is anything in nature which creates beauty without human interference. In the truest sense it denotes lack of control or out of reach. Photographers attempt to capture scenes of natural beauty or behavior as these images serve as our visual memory of an instant in time we want to preserve.” —Nat White

“

*The magic of photography is creating direct lines
between your heart, brain, and eyes.
Finding which part of that triangle feeds the other will define
which kind of photographer you are.* —Benedicte Kurzen,
Contributing Photographer, National Geographic

"This photo was taken in nearby Shenandoah National Park, a truly remarkable natural canvas for photographers. Each season offers natural images for the nature photographer."
—Gary Powell

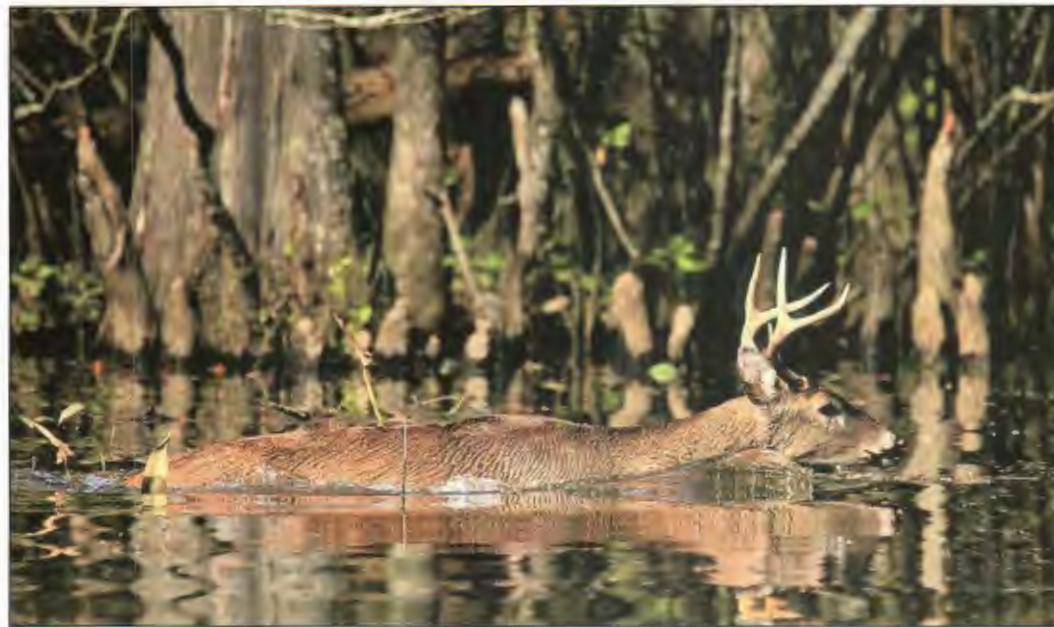


Gary Powell, Charlottesville / Black bear cub watches from a tree, Nikon D7200 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 70-300mm f4.5/5.6 lens, ISO 400, 1/80, f 5.6

"Wild means free of human constraints, to be unfettered by mechanized human intrusion. It's about getting outside and seeing how nature interacts in its own natural world of sunlight, rain, temperature, and predator/prey relationships without the interference of humans. The terms *Eutierria* or *Waldeinsamkeit* come to mind when reflecting upon how I view the wild and our natural world." —Liam McGranaghan



Liam McGranaghan, Berryville / Shenandoah River paddle, Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge phone, ISO 40, 1/2608, f/7.1



Kevin Caudle, Williamsburg / During the rut a white-tailed buck swims across the river at Chickahominy Riverfront Park in Jamestown, no camera or setting information embedded in file or provided

"To me, 'wild' means the blessing of being able to witness first-hand the marvels of this world that can only be experienced in the great outdoors." —Kevin Caudle

"Being in the wild surrounded by nature brings me a sense of relaxation I can find nowhere else." —Daniel Fedorko



Daniel Fedorko, Falls Church / When the wildlife observer becomes the observed at Belle Isle State Park, Nikon D7500 DSLR camera, Sigma DG 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 125, 1/160, F/8



Daniel Langberg, Warrenton / Daniel Langberg and his son, Simon, prepare to inspect their honey bee hives, Canon EOS 1100D DSLR camera, Canon EF-S 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 III lens, ISO 640, 1/40, f/3.5

"Beekeeping, and particularly, the process of catching a swarm of feral honey bees, has been a thrilling and rewarding way to find my sense of wild. The swarm, featured below, was living in a tree crevice when it swarmed for space and reproductive purposes—approximately half the original colony stayed behind in the tree and half departed in search of a new home, which was provided in the form of a hive box." —Daniel Langberg

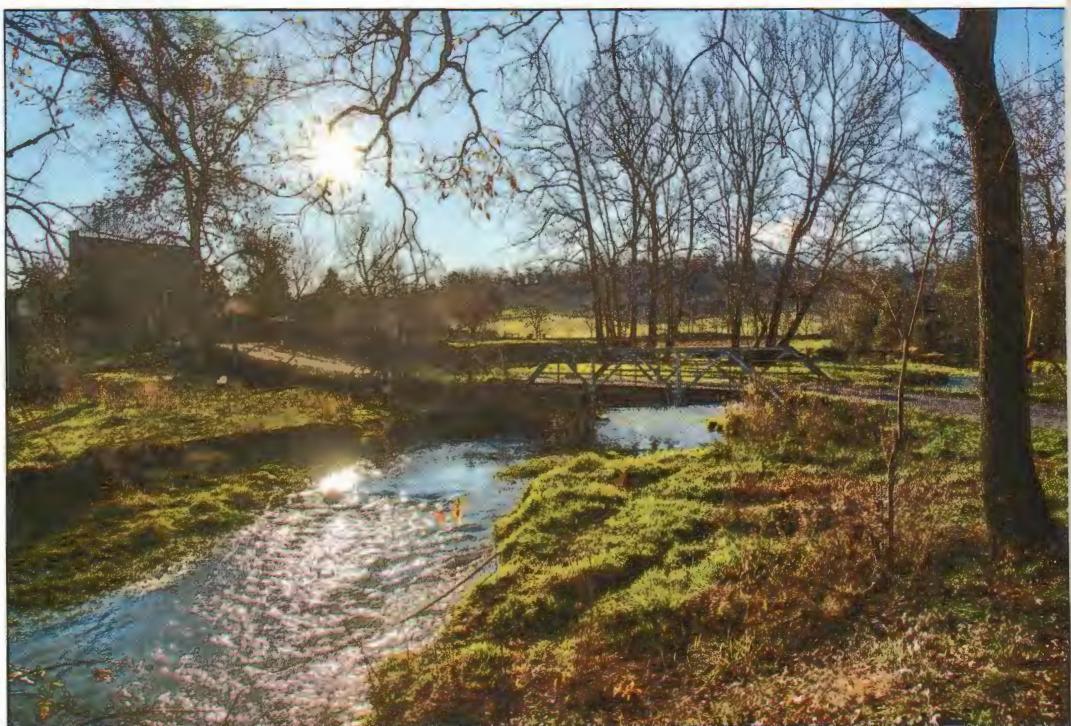


"There is no bad weather, just bad choices for what you wear outside."

"When the weather gets wild, the tame get outdoors and experience all that the Virginia outdoors offers. The shows that nature provides in perfect, and even during inclement weather, are awe-inspiring, motivating, educational, and emotionally connecting, and build up the resilience we all need in today's world."

"Grab someone special, go explore, discover, learn and of course, be prepared while knowing your limits. Be safe. Be well."

"The highly technical Mossy Creek, here highlighting the Mossy Bridge. One of my favorite places that my young son introduced to me, as he did with fly fishing (catch and release). Lots of great conversations and memories on that creek made possible by strong partnerships between DWR, generous landowners, and non-profit organizations." —Ed Higgins



Ed Higgins, Purcellville / Mossy Creek, Nikon 750 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 24-120 mm f/4 lens, ISO 200, 1/1250, f/8



Jeannie Holden, Charlottesville / This red eft is the terrestrial form of the red-spotted newt, Olympus E-M1 Mark III DSLR camera, Olympus 60mm f/2.8 macro lens, ISO 800, 1/100, f/8.0

"Wild means to me, a trail less traveled. There is a feeling of discovery as I look at every detail of the flora and fauna that lives in the undergrowth of old trees and along the pristine streams where I walk. 'Wild' to me is the sense of wonder and awe that I experience every time I'm out in nature." —Jeannie Holden

"Departing the city that we've manufactured and entering the wilderness awakens the senses with awe. Immersion into the forest, or further—into a stream, wading back into the food chain we are so insulated from—realizes a memory of Eden that haunts us all. Fly fishing is my passport to this majestic creation and photographs are my souvenirs." —Alan Downie



Alan Downie, Roanoke / Fly fishing the caddis hatch on North Buffalo Creek, Nikon CoolPix W300 digital camera, ISO 140, 1/30, f/2.8

"Wild means wildlife doing what it naturally does to survive and reproduce. Since our place is on the Mason Neck peninsula, 25 miles from the White House, and is surrounded by forest and marshland, one step outside and we're in the wild. The immediate area is home to a wide variety of birds, insects, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals. Photographing some of those hard to see daily activities of wildlife helps bring that wild into our home."

"This is a prothonotary warbler at the moment of fledging. The image was taken a split second after it flew for the first time from its nest and was taken in our yard in Lorton, VA." —Randy Streufert



Randy Streufert, Lorton / A prothonotary warbler fledgling's first flight, Nikon D800 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 600mm f/4 lens, 1.4X teleconverter, flash units, ISO 200, 1/200, f/22

"It makes me happy to be in the woods, listening to the birds and every other wildlife." —Thomas Taylor



Thomas Taylor, Wise / Nice buck, Samsung Galaxy A015V phone, ISO 147, 1/60, f/2.1

"My Wild = Explore. Mammals. Habitat. Renewal. Insects. Peace. Plants. Exercise. Fungi. Discover. Birds. Quiet. Reptiles. Appreciate. Happiness.

"A basket full of edible mushrooms. Indigo Milk Cape, Chantrelle, Black Trumpet, and Old Man of the Woods. This is my favorite 'Wild' pastime. Collecting mushrooms for spore prints, study, and searching for edibles. A true 'taste of the wild.' " —Vickie Rapalee



Vickie Rapalee, Goochland / Edible mushrooms, Apple iPhone 7, ISO 80, 1/15, f/1.8

“

All good things
are wild
and free.

—Henry David Thoreau

"I grew up on a farm on the lower peninsula of Michigan. From age 10 I would roam the large state forest adjacent to our farm for hours. After college I moved to southern California. There I often backpacked in the Sierra Mountains and visited national parks. Wild meant returning to areas mostly undisturbed by civilization." —Charles Buell



Charles Buell, Williamsburg / Sunrise over the Great Dismal Swamp overlooking Lake Drummond, the largest lake in Virginia, Canon EOS R5 DSLR camera, Canon EF24-105mm f/4L II lens, ISO 2000, 1/5000, f/16



Betty Sue Cohen, Virginia Beach / A red fox with a young opossum for its kits, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 300mm f/4 lens, ISO 640, 1/4000, f/5

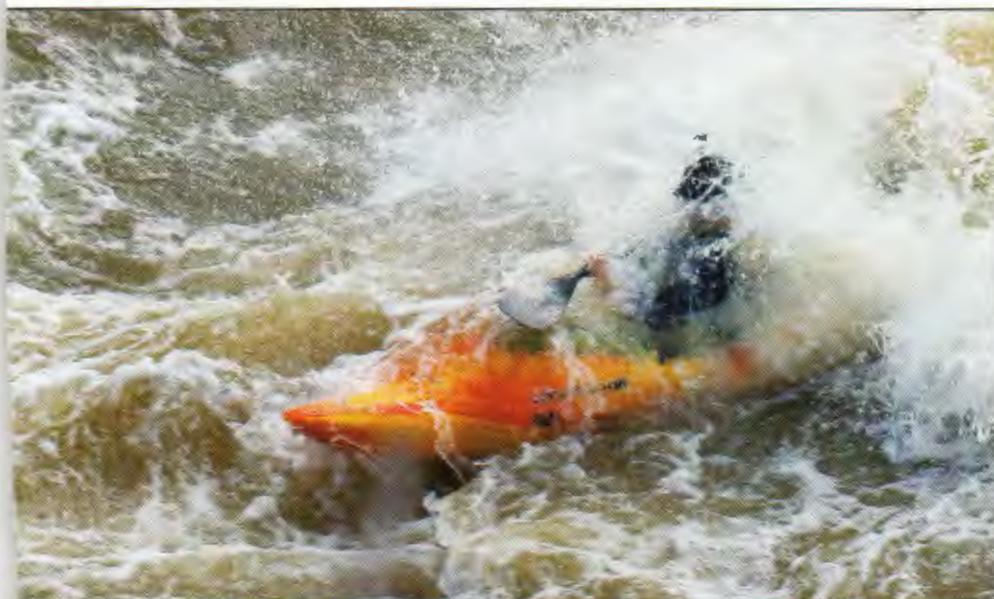
"WILD is untamed, natural, as well as unusual and exciting. As a photographer, being in the 'wild' with nature is extraordinary, educational, peaceful, magical, and remarkable. It is beauty beyond words." —Betty Sue Cohen

"Wild to me means the experience of being able to view and photograph wildlife interactions in their natural environment. Whether it be a buck chasing does during the rut, a Cooper's hawk chasing a squirrel or red fox kits playing with each other, seeing these things bring out the wild in me. Wild also involves viewing wildlife locally that have adapted and flourish in an urban environment. Since I live in a city, I love viewing 'urban' wildlife."

"I was looking for shore birds at a local park in the city of Poquoson, when I saw a flash as this juvenile Cooper's hawk flew in after a gray squirrel. It chased the squirrel around the tree for several minutes before finally grabbing it. Unfortunately, an adult Cooper's hawk swooped down, chased the juvenile away, and the squirrel escaped." —Terry Moore



Terry Moore, Newport News / A juvenile Cooper's hawk goes after a squirrel, Canon EOS 5D Mark III DSLR camera, Canon EF300mm f/2.8L IS lens, Canon EF1.4x III extender, ISO 2000, 1/1250, f/4



Jack Nevitt, Ashburn / White-water kayaking at Great Falls Park, Sony Alpha a7RM IV mirrorless camera, Tamron 28-200mm f/2.8-5.6 Di III RXD lens, ISO 640, 1/640, f/5.6

"Wild means the great outdoors, whether it's watching or participating in the adventure of living. From scenic photography or sports photography, it's always exciting to get outdoors in Virginia." —Jack Nevitt

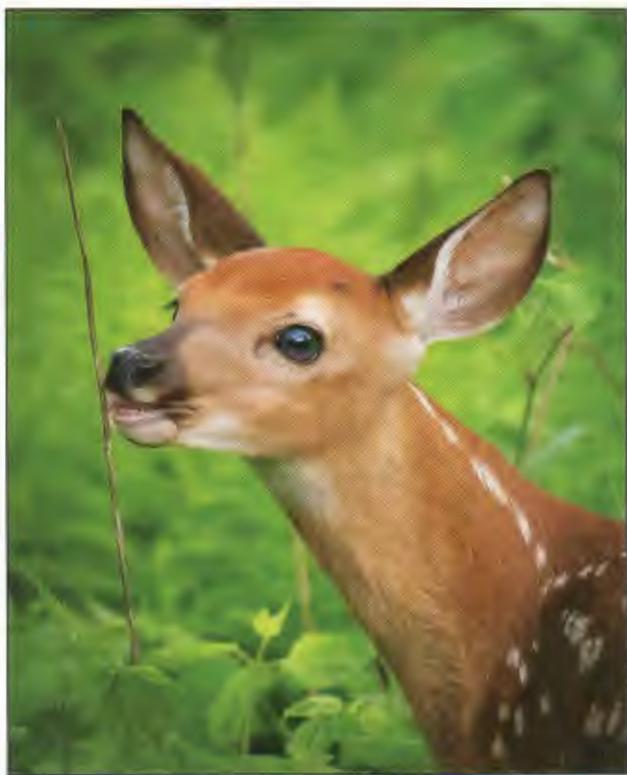
"Wild to me is any untamed creature or unspoiled place in our world. Fortunately for me, there are some wild animals that inhabit my little space on earth. My home backs up to a field and forest that are home to many animals. Some I see fairly often and others are infrequent visitors. I am always thrilled to see a new species that lives in the forest, or perhaps is just passing through. Since I am not a person who travels far from home, it is a blessing to me to see and photograph some of the creatures that venture into my view.

"I love to see the interactions between different species of animals. This Eastern cottontail and Eastern chipmunk took some time checking each other out, getting closer and closer. They seem to be willing to tolerate each other and share their space." —*Donna Stokes*



Donna Stokes, Waynesboro / A chipmunk and cottontail share a meal of sunflower seeds, Canon EOS 70D DSLR camera, Canon EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6 L IS II lens, ISO 400, 1/60, f/10

"I love the summer and seeing all the new fawns. This one was in the Shenandoah National Park. Look at those cute tiny baby teeth. Always a treat to see the wildlife." —*Barbara Marsh*



Barbara Marsh, Culpeper / A fawn in Shenandoah National Park, Canon 5D Mark IV DSLR camera, Canon EF70-200mm f/4L lens, ISO 2500, 1/800, f/4

"My wild is our 5-acre property in Toano where we are 're-wilding' a 2-acre former horse pasture, creating a wildflower habitat along the road frontage, and installing a 1,200 square foot raised bed pollinator garden filled with annuals, perennials, vegetables, grasses and shrubs... both native and non-native species. A landscape designer, my garden is experimental and is the first place I visit in the morning and the last place each evening. I spend many happy hours in all four seasons photographing the birds, butterflies, insects, and other creatures that visit on a regular basis.

"This is my pollinator habitat along the Forge Road frontage. Signs educate passersby as well as attempt to keep VDOT from mowing." —*Peggy Krapf*



Peggy Krapf, Toano / A native butterfly habitat created by the photographer, Canon PowerShot sx170 digital camera, ISO 100, 1/125, f/4.5



Jean Wibbens, Goode / Trail riding, GoPro, no settings included

"Wild is getting outside in this beautiful state and away from paved surfaces. It is a great way to recharge my battery. Whether hiking with my dog or exploring via horseback or just being outdoors it is a way to reconnect with our environment and life itself. Back to the basics!"

"Exploring the forests of Virginia from the back of a horse is an experience not common to everyone. While riding my horse I mounted a Go-Pro camera to my riding helmet. This is a shot captured from the video. I liked that it tells the story and places me in the photo as well." —Jean Wibbens

"Wild to me means the Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in southeastern Virginia. It's 112,000 acres of relatively untouched wooded wetlands where I can often find myself alone, surrounded by the sounds and smells and sights of the swamp. It's the one place in the Hampton Roads area one can escape the din of the city and the sprawl of suburbia." —Dan Whiting



Dan Whiting, Portsmouth / Sunrise over the Great Dismal Swamp overlooking Lake Drummond, Nikon D7100 DSLR camera, Nikon Nikkor 18-300mm f/3.5-6.3 lens, ISO 200, 1/160, f/6.3



Edward Episcopo, Fredericksburg / Osprey battle for a shad, Nikon D500 DSLR camera, Tamron 150-600mm f/5-6.3 lens, ISO 640, 1/2000, f/6.3

"I feel more in touch with wildlife by spending many hours watching animals interact in their natural habitat. I try to learn their habits so I can anticipate their actions, which allows me to get a few seconds to prepare for the shot. I also try to learn as much as I can about each subject and about their current status. I think it gives me a greater appreciation of each creature when I know more about them. I often see activity that you can only see by spending an extensive amount of time with your subjects. I've always loved the outdoors and photography allows me to share some of the amazing things I see in Nature."

"I don't often see osprey try to steal fish from each other, but on that morning, there were few shad in the Rappahannock River in Fredericksburg. These two birds were rapidly weaving around boulders and brush, which made it one of the more difficult shots I had to make in 2020." —*Edward Episcopo*

"I remember my first time seeing prothonotary warblers. I felt like I was in a Disney movie when these sunflower-yellow birds started flying around my head and even zipping past my ankles, chasing each other through the marsh at Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge in Woodbridge. I've been hooked ever since. Their WILD behavior and beauty hooked me on WILDLIFE photography. And my life has been better ever since." —*Barbara Saffir*



Barbara Saffir, Fairfax / Prothonotary warblers exchange nest box duties, Canon EOS 7D Mark II DSLR camera, Canon EF100-400mm f/4.5-5.6 lens, ISO 250, 1/1600, f/5.6

"Wild for me is spending time in the outdoors whether it is fishing, hunting, backpacking, or hiking. The year 2020 made it even harder to experience the wild since everyone else had the same idea. So, it looks like in 2021 I will have to go deeper into the 'wild' to escape the tame." —*Todd Rapalee*



Todd Rapalee, Goochland / A husband and wife selfie at the completion of DWR's 1st Annual 2020 Run For The Wild event, Apple iPhone 7, ISO 25, 1/499, f/2.2

2022 ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY SHOWCASE

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Jack Nevitt, Ashburn / Shenandoah National Park, Canon 5D Mark III DSLR camera, Canon EF16-35mm f/2.8L lens, ISO 200, 1/125, f/6.3

The Annual Photography Showcase is offered each year as a way to recognize the rich heritage of Virginia's wildlife and natural resources and pay tribute to the mission of the Department of Wildlife Resources.

Images will be chosen by the editorial staff from those submitted via our online link, available now! Selected images will appear in the July/August 2022 issue, although some entries may appear on our website, blog, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter sites to promote the mission of the agency and advertise future photography showcases. Promotional usage rights must be available to *Virginia Wildlife* staff and the Department's webmaster.

The Categories:

- **Virginia Fauna** – Native mammals and birds (game and nongame), insects, reptiles and amphibians, underwater images of fish and aquatic life.
- **Textures & Patterns** – Abstract designs, textures, and patterns found in nature. Make us guess what it is!
- **Trail-Cam Images** – Images captured on trail cameras that reveal something interesting or funny about the subject.
- **NEW! Celebrate Virginia's Native Plants** - For this category, we ask you to send us your images of native plants in Virginia. For information about native plants, visit the Virginia Native Plants Society at vnps.org where you can find free PDF versions of regional native plant guides.

How to Enter:

1. The showcase is open to any photographer, amateur or professional, young or young at heart, including DWR employees.
2. Each photographer may enter up to three (3) images per category. Note that submissions will not be returned and prints are no longer accepted.
3. All entries must be identified by photographer's name, city/state of residence, and daytime phone number in order to be published. Image location is helpful but not required.

Note: The submission form must include the brand and model of camera, brand, model, and mm of lens used (not mm length shot) and aperture range of lens, ISO, shutter speed, and f/stop. Example: Under the photograph above, is the information we need for each submission.

4. All entries must have been taken in Virginia of plants and animals native to Virginia. We prefer that all photos of wild animals be taken in their natural habitat. We do not condone images taken of animals restrained in any manner.
5. Images submitted must have been shot at the highest resolution and size possible to meet publication requirements (native resolution of 240/300ppi and at minimum 8" x 10") but no larger than 60 MB per image.
6. PLEASE do not overly sharpen, saturate, crop too tightly, or color correct your images. In the past these images have caused problems and couldn't be used.
7. **DISQUALIFICATIONS:** Do not include a signature, logo, or watermark on your submitted photographs. It is sometimes impossible to Photoshop them out and then, your image can't be used. In addition, if you submit any photograph showing unsafe practices according to VDWR such as not wearing a life jacket in a boat or handling a gun unsafely that photograph will be disqualified as well.
8. If you have trouble uploading your files, try another browser or update the one you have and restart your computer. Some browsers will not play nice with our system. Google Chrome seems to work best. Internet Explorer can pose challenges.
9. Our submission link is available at: www.virginiawildlife.gov/virginia-wildlife/photoshowcase-entry. Submissions must be uploaded by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, February 7, 2022. We do not let you know if your entry has made it in or not because we are hoping it will be a delightful surprise when you receive your subscription copy in the mail! If you don't have a subscription, now is the perfect time to sign up for one at: virginia-wildlife.gov/subscribers.

HAPPY SHOOTING! WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR AWESOME PHOTOGRAPHS!



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